



## Expo grazing seminars to include research on alternative supplements

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**Contact:** Ashley Andre, 608-224-5002

**Jim Dick, Communications Director, 608-224-5020**

MADISON – Alternative supplements for dairy cows will be one of the topics covered at the grazing seminars at World Dairy Expo on Friday, October 4 in Madison. Dr. Kathy Soder of the USDA Agricultural Research Service at University Park in Pennsylvania will present research on feeding flaxseed and molasses on pasture-based dairy farms. Molasses can be a source of energy and trace minerals. Flaxseed can also be a source of energy and improve the fatty acid profile of the meat and milk.

The presentation by Soder and Dr. Brad Heins of the University of Minnesota Animal Science Department will cover the economic, herd health and milk production implications of supplementing corn with alternatives such as flaxseed and molasses. In a time of high grain prices, the discussion will cover how lower-cost alternatives can allow farmers to maintain or improve milk production.

Other grazing presentations will cover the benefits of raising replacement heifers on pasture and the performance of meadow fescue during these variable climate conditions. A panel of dairy genetics experts will also discuss breeding for grazing systems. For a complete schedule and details on the seminars, visit [http://datcp.wi.gov/Farms/Grazing/Grazing\\_Events](http://datcp.wi.gov/Farms/Grazing/Grazing_Events).

The four-part seminar series begins at 10:00 am in the Mendota 3 Room of the Exhibition Hall and concludes with a reception from 3:00 to 6:00 pm in the Waubesa Room. There is no charge to attend these events. World Dairy Expo admission is required.

The grazing events at World Dairy Expo are a partnership between the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), University of Wisconsin-Extension, University of Minnesota-Extension, and private farmers and businesses. Sponsors this year include: Bavarian Fleckvieh, Byron Seed, CRV, Crystal Creek, DFA Dairy Grazing Services, the GrassWorks Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship, Geno Global, Graze Magazine, Hoof-Tec, Horizon Organic, Midwestern BioAg, Normande Genetics, Organic Valley, Prairie Creek Seeds, Spaulding Laboratories and Taurus Service.

For more on being a sponsor or attending the events, contact DATCP's Laura Paine at 608-224-5120 or [laura.paine@wi.gov](mailto:laura.paine@wi.gov). To learn more about World Dairy Expo, visit <http://worlddairyexpo.com>.

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